CLAIM AMENDMENTS
(Insertions indicated by underline; deletions indicated by strikethrough.)

1. (Currently Amended) A recombinant expression vector ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of an open reading frame operably linked to one or more regulatory elements, wherein the open reading frame encodes a ~~of a nucleotide sequence encoding the~~ polypeptide set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5.

2. (Currently Amended) The recombinant expression vector of Claim 1, wherein said open reading frame has ~~nucleotide sequence is~~ the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4.

3. (Currently Amended) The recombinant expression vector of Claim 1, wherein said vector ~~further comprises~~ a replication-defective virus.

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4. (Original) A host cell comprising the recombinant expression vector of Claim 1, wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of prokaryotic host cells and eukaryotic host cells.

5. Cancelled.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting a nucleic acids encoding Rig in a sample, comprising the steps of:

a) providing:
   i) a sample comprising a nucleic acid encoding Rig,
   ii) a nucleic acid probe ~~comprising nucleic acid~~ having complementarity to at least a portion of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4,
b) combining said sample and said probe under conditions wherein a hybridization complex is formed between said probe and said nucleic acid in said sample, and
c) detecting said hybridization complex,

whereupon the detection of the hybridization complex indicates the presence of a nucleic acid encoding Rig in the sample.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein said sample is selected from the group consisting of total cellular RNA, polyA RNA and genomic DNA.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 6, wherein said sample ~~comprises~~ is from tumor tissue.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein said sample is from a human subject.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 6, wherein said ~~method comprises~~ hybridization complex in step c) is detected using a Northern blotting protocol.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for amplifying a nucleic acids encoding Rig in a sample, comprising:

a) providing:
   i) a sample comprising a nucleic acids encoding Rig,
   ii) a DNA polymerase;
   iii) two oligonucleotides, one of which is complementary ~~having complementarity~~ to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4 and one of which is complementary to the nucleotide sequence that is complementary to SEQ ID NO: 4; and
   iv) polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification reagents;
b) combining said sample, said DNA polymerase, said oligonucleotides, and said PCR amplification reagents;~~,~~
c) annealing said oligonucleotides to said nucleic acid in said sample; and
d) extending said oligonucleotides with reiterated DNA synthesis under conditions such that said nucleic acid is amplified, whereupon a nucleic acid encoding Rig is amplified. ~~to produce an amplified product; and~~
~~e) detecting said amplified product~~.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein said DNA polymerase has both DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity and reverse transcriptase RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein said sample is from a human subject.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein said sample ~~comprises~~ is from tumor tissue.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein said nucleic acid is selected from DNA and RNA.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein one of said two oligonucleotides consists of ~~comprise~~ SEQ ID NO:2 and the other of said two oligonucleotides consists of SEQ ID NO:3.

17-28. (Cancelled)

29. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the method further comprises step e) detecting said amplified product.